

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LENDING 01361 01 OF 02 051236Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-10  
NSAE-00 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 DODE-00 PA-01  
ICA-11 /065 W  
-----025740 051251Z /43  
R 051217Z MAY 78  
FM AMCONSUL LENINGRAD  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4264  
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 LENINGRAD 01361

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ECON, CGEN, PINT, UR  
SUBJECT: VISIT TO APATITE PLANT NEAR MURMANSK

REF: LENINGRAD 01335

1. SUMMARY: ON FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT TO MURMANSK (APRIL 24-27) CONSUL GENERAL, ACCOMPANIED BY VICE CONSUL CARLSON AND RESPECTIVE WIVES, WAS GIVEN PERMISSION TO VISIT APATITY, SITE OF NEW PHOSPHATE CONCENTRATE PLANT. BRIEF VISIT CONFIRMED VERY USEFUL TELECON REPORT FROM EMBASSY MOSCOW THAT APATITY HAS VIRTUAL MONOPOLY ON CONCENTRATE PRODUCTION IN USSR, AND IT ALSO PROVIDED INSIGHTS INTO OPTIMISTIC FRONTIER ATMOSPHERE OF NEW INDUSTRIAL CENTER. END SUMMARY.

2. SIX-HOUR TRAIN RIDE ON APRIL 26 TO AND FROM APATITY ALLOWED ONLY RELATIVELY BRIEF TIME FOR VISIT WITH CITY'S MAYOR BESSMERTNYY (WHO, IN ADDITION TO BEING MINING ENGINEER, HAS FILM-STAR LOOKS AND PERSONALITY), FOLLOWED BY LUNCHEON GIVEN BY MAYOR AND HOUR VISIT TO CONCENTRATE PLANT ANOF-2. BESSMERTNYY USED TO WORK AT PLANT UNDER PRESENT DIRECTOR GARBUNOV. BOTH MEN EXUDED FRONTIER PRIDE OF ACHIEVEMENT AS THEY DESCRIBED:

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LENDING 01361 01 OF 02 051236Z

-- APATITY'S GROWTH TO 63,000 TODAY (47,000 IN 1976) SINCE IT WAS INCORPORATED IN 1966. IT NOW DWARFS KIROVSK (35,000 PERSONS) WHICH HAS BEEN MAJOR MINING SITE FOR APATITE SINCE 1930'S.

-- APATITY HAS VIRTUAL "MONOPOLY," BESSMERTNYY SAID,

PRODUCING 80 PERCENT OF USSR'S APATITE, OF WHICH 20 PERCENT IS EXPORTED TO SCANDINAVIA AND WESTERN EUROPE.

-- ORE USED TO RUN AS HIGH AS 26 PERCENT APATITE BUT PRESENT AVERAGE IS 15.5 TO 16 PERCENT.

-- WHILE AVOIDING GIVING ANY FIGURE ON RESERVES, BESSMERTNYY SAID THEY WERE SUFFICIENT FOR YEARS, BUT HE FORESAW DAY WHEN PROCESSING METHODS WILL MAKE CONCENTRATION OF 4 TO 6 PERCENT ORE PROFITABLE.

-- ANOF-2, AN ENORMOUS CONCENTRATE PLANT 700 METERS LONG, PRODUCES AROUND 32,000 TONS OF CONCENTRATE DAILY OR 11.5 MILLION TONS PER ANNUM (PLANT DIRECTOR'S FIGURES).

-- QUALITATIVELY, THE CONCENTRATION OF 39.5 PERCENT IS THE HIGHEST IN THE WORLD (DIRECTOR CLAIMED IT IS 38 PERCENT IN FLORIDA).

-- GARBUNOV BOASTED THAT MACHINERY (WITH EXCEPTION OF SOME GDR EQUIPMENT) WAS ENTIRELY SOVIET, WITH A NEW GIANT CRUSHER NOW BEING INSTALLED, HAVING BEEN DESIGNED BY DIRECTOR OF THE MINING CONGLOMERATE. MILLING EQUIPMENT (MELNITSY) MUST BE CHANGED EVERY THREE MONTHS. BESSMERTNYY SPOKE HIGHLY, HOWEVER, OF MICHIGAN AND CATERPILLAR VEHICLES IN USE.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 LENDING 01361 01 OF 02 051236Z

-- AVERAGE WAGES RUN 380-400 RUBLES IN APATITY AND APPARENTLY EVEN HIGHER IN KIROVSK BECAUSE MINERS GET SPECIAL HARDSHIP BONUS. AS RESULT HIGH WAGES, DEMAND FOR AUTOMOBILES IN APATITY OUTRUNS SUPPLY AND PLANT DIRECTOR IS BLAMED. WOMEN WORKING EVEN IN HIGHLY AUTOMATIZED CONTROL ROOMS AT ANOF-2 ARE ELIGIBLE TO RETIRE AT 45.

-- AFTER SEPARATING APATITE, REMAINING ORE IS DUMPED BEHIND BARRIER IN ONE CORNER OF LAKE IMANDRAS STOREHOUSE OF VARIOUS MINERALS, INCLUDING TITANIUM, FOR POSSIBLE FUTURE EXPLOITATION; SOME POLLUTION OF LAKE HAS RESULTED.

-- ORE CONTAINS NEPHALINE WHICH IS ALSO PROCESSED BUT ON LIMITED BASIS SINCE THERE IS NO GREAT DEMAND. FIGURE GIVEN WAS ONE MILLION TONS A YEAR.

-- APATITY CONTAINS SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH BRANCH OF ACADEMY OF SCIENCES ("OUR ACADEMIC CITY") AND TWO EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS WHICH SUPPLY MOST OF 600 TO 800-ODD EMPLOYEES JOINING ANOF-2 EACH YEAR.

-- BESSMERTNYY CLAIMED THAT POPULATION IS QUITE STABLE

AND CHILDREN (INCLUDING HIS OWN TWO DAUGHTERS) SEEK TO RETURN THERE AFTER UNIVERSITY. THIS IS CREDIBLE. IN ADDITION TO PRESENCE OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND RELATIVELY CLEAN, ATTRACTIVE ATMOSPHERE, PLANTS ARE BEING DEVELOPED TO MEET LOCAL NEEDS (E.G., BEER, MILK PLANTS NEXT YEAR); ACCOMPANYING MEMBER MURMANSK CITY GOVERNMENT CONFIRMED CLAIMS THAT PRE-FAB "PANEL" CONSTRUCTION PLANT IS BEST IN OBLAST AND THAT MURMANSK TRIED UNSUCCESSFULLY RECENTLY TO BUY MEAT FROM APATITY AREA, WHICH HAD EVEN PRE-WAR REPUTATION FOR CATTLE (CG PARTY WAS SERVED FAIR VEAL AT LUNCH). SINCE INTERNATIONAL SLALOM COMPETITION

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LENDING 01361 02 OF 02 051236Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-10  
NSAE-00 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 DODE-00 PA-01  
ICA-11 /065 W

-----025737 051250Z /43

R 051217Z MAY 78  
FM AMCONSUL LENINGRAD  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4265  
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 02 LENINGRAD 01361

JUST ENDED AT NEIGHBORING KIROVSK SKI "RESORT," IT IS EVIDENT REGION HAS MORE TO OFFER THAN MINING. BUCHANAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REPORTS, VISITS, PHOSPHATES, INDUSTRIAL PLANTS, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978LENING01361  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780192-0294  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** LENINGRAD  
**Handling Restrictions:**  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780589/aaaacyft.tel  
**Line Count:** 154  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 32cacba3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** ONLY  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** ONLY  
**Reference:** 78 LENINGRAD 1335  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2779968  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** VISIT TO APATITE PLANT NEAR MURMANSK  
**TAGS:** ECON, CGEN, PINT, UR, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/32cacba3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014